

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for managing digital images, comprising:
a server for allowing controlled access to a user image storage device having at least one digital image file of an image, said server having a communication system capable of communicating with a plurality of user computers, at least one of said user computers having said at least one digital image file, a software program for controlling access to said at least one digital image file, said software program for permitting automatic access to said at least one digital image file on said user computer by a third party and monitoring access by said third party without any further authorization by said user.
2. A system according to claim 1 wherein said at least one digital image file includes an electronic address for identifying that image came from said user.
3. A system according to claim 1 wherein said third party pays an access fee for use and/or down loading of said image from said user image file.
4. A system according to claim 3 wherein said service provider assigns a first predetermined credit to the account of the user of said downloaded image, a debit to the account of the third party downloading the image, and a second predetermined credit to the service provider.
5. A system according to claim 1 wherein a report is provided to said user regarding access to said digital media file.
6. A computer software product for managing digital images stored on a user computer, said software product comprising a computer readable storage medium having a computer program which when loaded into said user computer causes the computer to perform the following steps of:
allowing controlled access by a service provider to said digital image files stored on said user computer, said provider having a communication

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system capable of communicating with a plurality of different devices, said software program using an electronic data file for permitting automatic access to said at least one digital image file by a third party and monitoring access by said third party without any further authorization by said user.

7. A method for monitoring access to digital image files on a user computer by third parties over a communication network by service provider, comprising the steps of:

allowing controlled access by third parties to said digital image files on said user computer;

monitoring access by said third parties to said digital image files;

reporting said access by said third parties to said user.

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein said third party pays an access fee for use and/or down loading of said digital image file from said user.

9. A system according to claim 8 wherein said service provider assigns a first predetermined credit to the account of the user of said downloaded image, a debit to the account of the third downloading the image, and a second predetermined credit to the service provider.

10. A system according to claim 1 wherein a report is provided to said user regarding access to said digital media file.

11. A system for managing digital images, comprising:
a server for allowing controlled access to a user image storage device having at least one digital image file of an image, said server having a communication system capable of communicating with a plurality of user computers, at least one of said user computers having said at least one digital image file, a software program for controlling access to said at least one digital image file, said software program for permitting automatic access to said at least

one digital image file by a third party and monitoring access by said third party without any further authorization by said user.

12. A system according to claim 11 wherein said digital image file is stored on a service provider computer and is accessed by said third party on said computer.

13. A system according to claim 11 wherein said at least one digital image file includes an electronic address for identifying that image came from said user.

14. A system according to claim 11 wherein said third party pays an access fee for use and/or down loading of said image from said user image file.

15. A system according to claim 11 wherein said service provider assigns a first predetermined credit to the account of the user, a debit to the account of the third party downloading the image, and a second predetermined credit to the service provider.

16. A system according to claim 11 wherein a report is provided to said user regarding access to said digital media file.

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